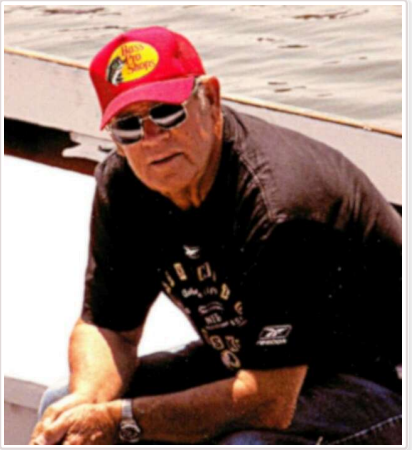
James "Eddie" Edwin Diggs, Jr.

Provided by Claytor Rollins Funeral Home and Crematory

December 27, 1941 ~ August 10, 2025 (age 83)



Eddie Diggs, 83, husband of Nannie White Diggs, passed away peacefully on Sunday, August 10, 2025, at home surrounded by his loving family. A native of Poquoson, he was born December 27, 1941, and raised in the Messick area, where he and his boyhood friends spent countless hours on whatever ball field was available.

Eddie was preceded in death by his parents Ed and Elethia Diggs; brothers-in-law Harvey Withrow, Manning Holloway and Pete White; sisters -in-law Cheryl Diggs, Darlene Lafferty and Marilyn Jenkins.

He is survived by Nannie, his high school sweetheart and loving wife of 64 years; his daughters Nanci Leigh Diggs Feldl (Eric) and Audra “Au” Diggs Riddle (Kenny); grandchildren Sabrina Dreybus, Nick Dreybus (Micaela), Madilyn Riddle (Zach), Carlee and Brooke Riddle; great grandchildren Dylan and Johnny Richardson and Olivia Dreybus; sisters Darnette Withrow and Rose Holloway; brother-in-law Richard White and sister-in-law Billie Jo Lowry (Terry); nieces Danette Zasimowich (Miles) and Sheila Allsbrook (Brooks) and nephews Bubba and Jim Withrow; as well as many extended family members, dear friends and fellow watermen. Eddie cherished his family and friends.

Eddie graduated from Poquoson High School in 1960 where he was a gifted athlete, excelling in basketball, football and baseball. Because of his athletic ability at shortstop and at the bat during his senior year at PHS, he was invited to try out for the Pittsburgh Pirates. Naturally, his favorite pastime while relaxing in his recliner was watching the Baltimore Orioles, Washington Nationals, Washington Redskins or any other televised game with Nannie . If no ball games were available, he tuned into Gunsmoke, his favorite western. Having watched so many episodes over and over again, he was famous for delivering the exact words the actors would say next—especially when Matt Dillon said “Don’t be a fool”. He also enjoyed frequent rides to the Point, the Wharf and other favorite spots in Poquoson. Eddie was a true Bull Island waterman who had a work ethic to be admired as he harvested oysters and blue crabs. He worked out of Chesapeake Bay Deadrise Boats that he named after his daughters Nanci Leigh and Audra.

Eddie’s family extends sincere thanks and appreciation to everyone for their prayers, dedicated gestures of kindness and love.

A visitation will be held at Claytor Rollins Funeral Home in Poquoson from 5 to 7pm on Friday, August 15th. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105.